

MARYLAND HERALDRY

Prominent Personages In The State's History.

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S HALLS

Their Home Is At Pleasant Hill, In That County, And At Bolingly, In Queen Anne's.



THE HALL ARMS

By EMILY EMERSON LANTZ.

Arms—Party per pale, in dexter side a unicorn statant, in sinister side a lion statant.
Crest—A unicorn.

The writer does not know the exact date of the arrival of the Halls in Maryland, but it is known that they were here long before the close of the seventeenth century.

Richard Hall, dying in 1788, left a large landed estate, and his third son, Benjamin Hall, inherited land on the Patuxent river. This Benjamin Hall married, not later than 1695, Mary Brooke, daughter of Thos. and Eleanor Hatton Brooke and granddaughter of Robert and Mary Baker Brooke.

Benjamin and Mary (Brooke) Hall seem to have had but two children—Francis, the son and heir, and Ellinor. The following inscription taken from the tomb of Ellinor Hall, which lies flat on the lawn at Pleasant Hill and upon which though dark and worn the lettering is still plainly seen, tells its own sad little story: "Here lies the body of Ellinor Hall, daughter to Benjamin and Mary Hall, of Charles county, Maryland, who departed this life on Friday, ye 17 day of July, Ano., 1702. Aged, 5 years and 9 months."

Thus was Francis Hall left the sole inheritor of the wealth and affection of his parents. The present house at Pleasant Hill was built during his childhood, and the walls of brick had reached the height of the doorway when he was sent to St. Omer's College, in France, to receive his education. On the day of his departure the builders wrought in bricks of a darker color in the front wall of the house his initials and the date of his going. These were obliterated when the mansion passed into the hands of a stranger. The great front doorway and arched hall within are typically Colonial; the rooms are large and well lighted, with huge fireplaces and plenty of closets; the stairway fine and easy of ascent.

Francis Hall, or "Grandpa Frank Hall," has been described by a great-granddaughter, whose mother well remembered him, as a person of marked individuality from youth to old age. Educated at St. Omer's, in France, he may be supposed to have been a man of intellect and culture. He lived through the Revolution and was an ardent patriot, joining at the beginning of the struggle an association whose members pledged themselves neither to purchase nor use any goods brought from England. Though a man of great wealth, Francis Hall wore the same coat for years until it was covered with patches, rather than wear English-made clothing.

One day some elegant French officers called at Pleasant Hill to see him. In a shabbily dressed old man wearing a patched coat they were surprised to find the master, but by the fluency with which he spoke their own language they quickly recognized the gentleman and scholar.

Francis Hall died in September, 1785.

His will was dated August 22, 1782. He married Dorothy Lowe, daughter of Col. Henry and Susannah Maria Bennett (Darnell) Lowe, and by her had six children. Dorothy Lowe Hall was a very interesting lady and lived to extreme old age. It is told that once at the age of 90 years she "cracked" the head of a servant for daring to address a great-granddaughter by her Christian name. This wonderful old lady died in February, 1803, aged 99 years, having survived her husband 18 years. She was very young when married, and but 15 years older than her eldest child, Benjamin, who died in March, 1803, at a very old age, having survived his mother but a few months. Francis and Dorothy Lowe Hall's six children were: (1) Benjamin Hall, who married Eleanor Murdock; (2) Richard Bennett Hall, who married Margaret Magruder; (3) Francis Hall, who married his first cousin, Martha Neale, and resided at Bolingly, Queen Anne's county, Md.; (4) Susannah Hall, who married Mr. Darnall; (5) Eleanor Hall, who married Mr. Digges; (6) Henrietta Maria Hall, who married John Waring.

Benjamin Hall, son of Francis and Dorothy Lowe Hall, inherited Pleasant Hill. He married Eleanor Murdock, daughter of William and Nancy Addison Murdock. Their five children were: (1) William Hall, who married Martha Hall, of Anne Arundel county, and left two daughters; (2) Henry Lowe Hall, the younger son, inherited Pleasant Hill and lived and died there unmarried, leaving the estate to Benjamin Clarke, the son of his sister Nancy; (3) Nancy Hall, who married Thomas Clarke, and had children: (a) Benjamin Hall; (b) Thomas Hall, who married Susan Adams, granddaughter of President Adams; (c) Maria Hall; (d) Martha Hall; (e) Charles Clarke Hall; (4) Eleanor Hall, who married, first, Dr. David Clarke, brother of Thomas Clarke, who married Nancy Hall, and had two daughters: (a) Marianne Clarke and (b) Mary Ann or "Polly" Clarke.

Eleanor (Hall) Clarke married, second, John Smith Magruder and had by this marriage six sons and one daughter, namely, Mortimer and Francis Magruder, who died young, and Nathaniel Magruder, Roderick Magruder, Henry Magruder, Alaric Magruder and Margaret Eleanor Magruder, who lived to maturity. Margaret Eleanor Magruder married Dr. Jesse Ewell, of Prince William county, Virginia.

Eleanor Hall Clarke Magruder was born January 23, 1766, and died August 7, 1852. She lies buried by the side of her second husband, John Smith Magruder, at Dunblane, Prince George's county Md.

(5) Katharine, or "Kitty," Hall married William Bowle and left many descendants.

To return to the children of Eleanor Hall by her first marriage with Dr. David Clarke, Marianne Clarke, the elder daughter, was considered a beauty. Her father named her for the wife of Dr. Craik, who had been Miss Marianne Ewell, of Virginia, and with whose husband he had studied medicine. Marianne Clarke married at the age of 16 her mother's cousin, Addison Murdock, and by him she had one son, William Murdock, of Georgetown, D. C. Left a widow at a very early age, she married, second, before she was 21 years of age, Charles French, Esq., and had by this marriage one daughter, Virginia French, who, like her mother, was renowned for her beauty and who married Maynadler Mason, son of General Mason, who was a descendant of George Mason, of Gunston. Maynadler and Virginia French Mason had many children.

Mary Ann (or Polly) Clarke died unmarried. She lived in Georgetown and was well known as a woman of strong and decided character.

Richard Bennett Hall, the second son of Francis and Dorothy Lowe Hall, married Margaret Magruder and settled at Collington Meadows, near Pleasant Hill. Their descendants are still living and are represented by Mr. Frank Magruder Hall, of Prince George's county. In the first issue of the Maryland Journal, August 20, 1773, is found a quaint advertisement for a runaway negro by Richard Bennett Hall.

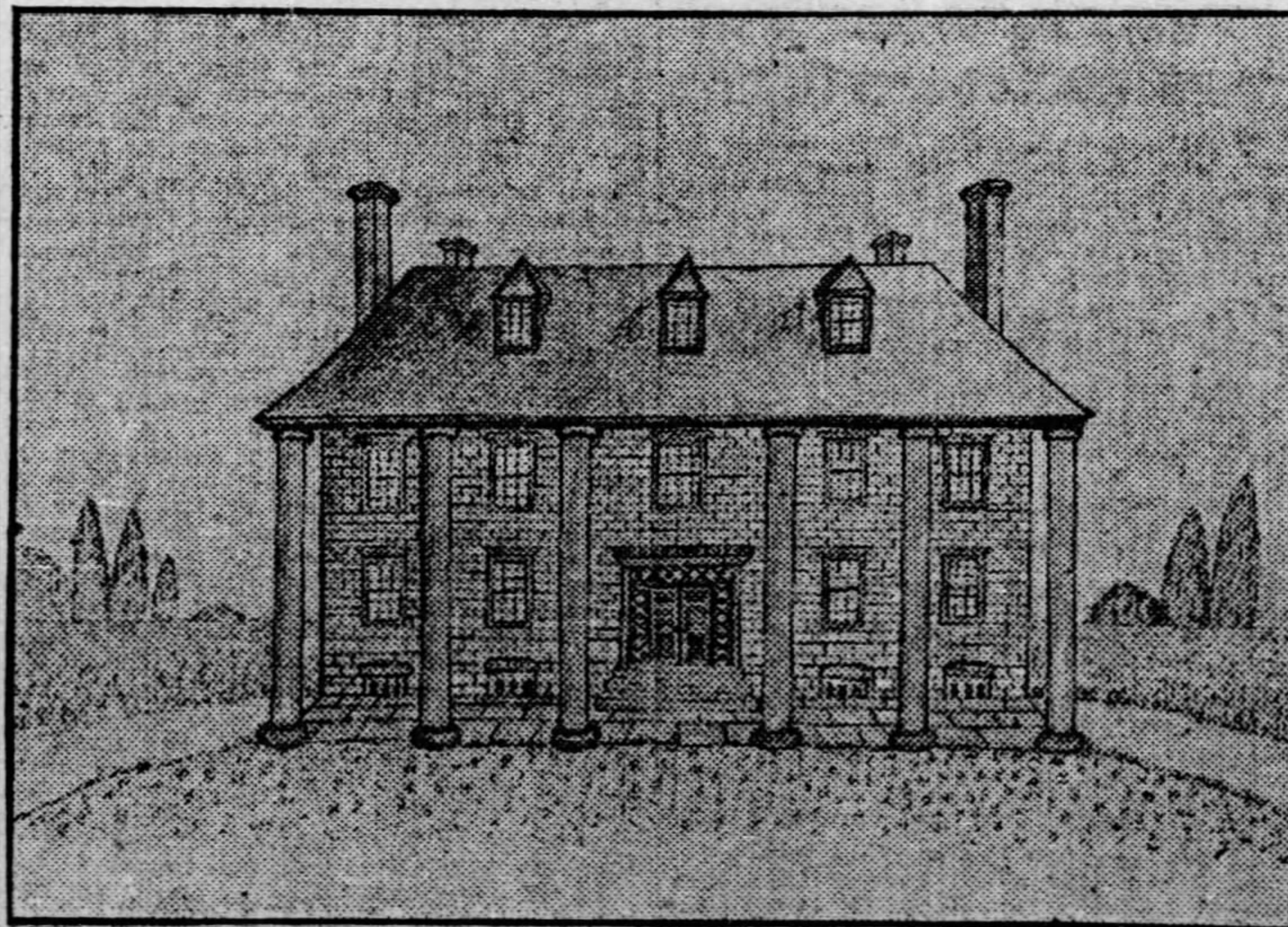
Francis Hall, the younger son of Francis and Dorothy (Lowe) Hall, married his first cousin, Martha Neale, daughter of Edward and Mary Lowe Neale, and they settled at Bolingly, Queen Anne's county. After Martha (Neale) Hall's death her husband married, second, Anne Hawkins, of Charles county, and they had a daughter, who married William Bowle, of Prince George's county, and left descendants. Anne Hawkins Hall was a brilliant, dashing woman and much admired socially. A devotee of the chase, she often followed the hounds through Queen Anne's and Talbot counties. She wore a green habit and presented a conspicuous figure seated upon her spirited

steed. She was made the heroine of a book written by one of her contemporaries and founded upon the events of those times.

The children of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall were: Francis Hall, Edward Hall, Benjamin Hall, Mary Hall, Theresa Hall, Martha Hall, Eleanor Hall, Henrietta Hall, Maria Hall, Richard Hall and Susannah Hall. The last two died unmarried. Martha (Neale) Hall died May 31, 1789, aged 51 years and 5 months, and lies buried at Bolingly, Queen Anne's county, Md. Her father, Edward Neale, born 1700 and died December 28, 1760, lies buried at Bolingly also and very near his daughter. There is a handsome oil painting of Martha (Neale) Hall (through which the British ran a sword) still in the possession of one of her descendants. This picture shows her to have been very handsome with her hair combed high and powdered, as was then the style.

[Continued Next Sunday.]

PLEASANT HILL IN COLONIAL DAYS



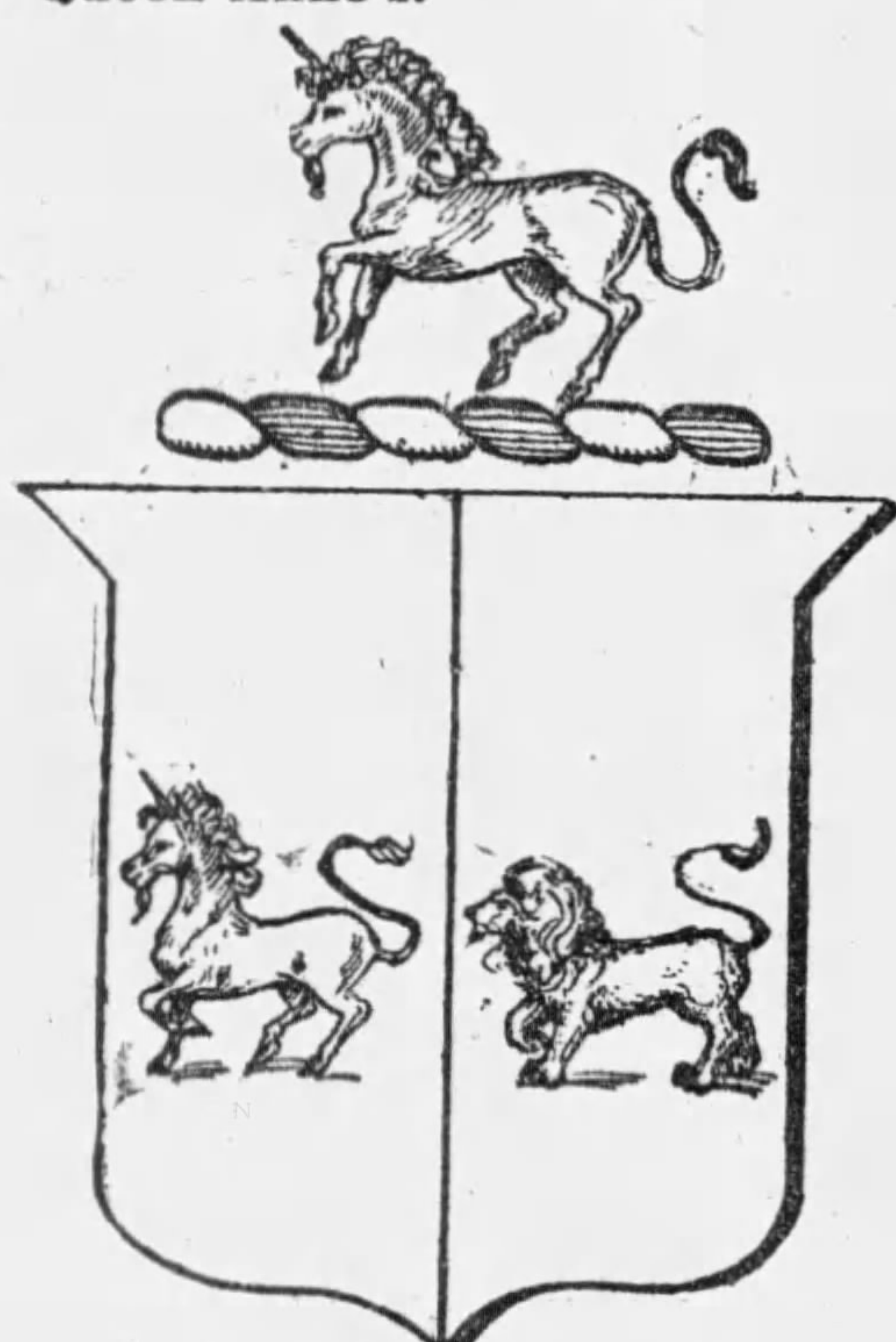
THE ANCESTRAL HOME OF THE HALL FAMILY.

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BY EMILY EMERSON LANTZ.

[Continued from Last Sunday.]

Francis Hall, son of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Maria Rozier, daughter of Henry Notley Rozier, of Notley Hall, and took the name and coat of arms of the Rozier family. They had two children—Eliza Bond Rozier and Francis Rozier. The latter married, first, Harriet Brooke, of Frederick, Md., and, second, Henrietta Roberts, of Alexandria, Va.

Eliza Bond Rozier married William Henry DeCourcy, of Queen Anne's county. They had three children: (a) Henry Notley Rozier DeCourcy, (b) William Henry DeCourcy and (c) Henrietta DeCourcy.

Henry Notley Rozier DeCourcy married Nannie Paca, and they had one daughter, Nannie DeCourcy, who married Edward Brennan, of Anne Arundel county.

Dr. William Henry DeCourcy is unmarried and resides at Cheston-on-the-Wye, Queen Anne's county.

Henrietta DeCourcy married Hon. Henry May. Their children are: (a) Frederick May, (b) Rosa May, who married John S. Gittings, of Ashburton, Baltimore; (c) DeCourcy May, (d) Henry May, (e) George May, (f) Julia May, who married Mr. Babcock and resides at San Rafael, Cal., and (g) Lillian May, who is now Lady Bagot, wife of Lord William Bagot, of England.

The children of John Sterrett and Rosa (May) Gittings, of Ashburton, are: Henry May Gittings, Gladys Gittings, Dorothy Rosalie Gittings.

After Francis Hall Rozier died his widow, Maria Rozier, married, second, Dr. Daingerfield and had two children, William Henry Daingerfield and Mary Daingerfield.

Edward Hall, son of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Miss Clarkson, of New York, and had two children—Francis Clarkson Hall and Sarah Hall. The latter died unmarried. Francis Clarkson Hall married, first, Sarah Tilghman, sister of Edward Tilghman, of the White House, and, second, Louisa Van Wyck, of Baltimore.

Dr. Benjamin Hall, son of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Miss Brown, of New York. They had one daughter, Martha Neale Hall, who married Henry Tilghman, of the Shipyard, Kent county. He was the son of Matthew Tilghman and Sarah Smythe Tilghman, of Chestertown, Md., and a grandson of Col. Edward and Juliana Carroll Tilghman and of Hon. Thomas and Margaret Hands Smythe.

Martha Hall, daughter of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Notley Young, of Prince George's county, Maryland, and had four children, viz, Notley Young, Jr., Benjamin Young, Henry Young and Ellen Young.

Notley Young, Jr., married three times—first, Miss Smith; second, Nellie Hall; third, Mary Smith, and had by the last marriage two children—Clement Young, who married Marlon Hunter, and Julia Young, who married Mr. Clark.

Benjamin Young married Charlotte Manning, and they had the following children: (a) Ann Martha Young, who married Richard Bennett Willson; (b) Benjamin Young, who died unmarried; (c) Notley Young; (d) Wilfred Young, who married Elizabeth Boardman; (e) Alexander Young.

(3) Henry Young married Amelia Hunter, of Virginia.

(4) Ellen Young married Edmund Brooke, of Virginia.

Eleanor Hall, daughter of Francis and

Martha (Neale) Hall, married, first, Thomas Whetenhall Rozier (born 1758, died 1785), and second, William Tilghman, son of the third Richard and Susannah Frisby Tilghman, of the Hermitage. They had a daughter, Anna Maria Tilghman, who married Edward Tilghman, of the White House.

Henrietta Maria Hall, daughter of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Henry Waring and died, leaving no children. Henry Waring married, second, Millicent Brooke, by whom he had several children.

Richard Hall, son of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married Mary Blake, of Queen Anne's county, and they had two children—Richard Hall, who died unmarried, and Mary Hall, who became a Sister of Mercy and was known as Mother Etienne.

Richard Hall married, second, after Mary Blake's death, Henrietta M. Claget, of Prince George's county, and had four children: (a) Eleanor Martha Hall, (b) Henrietta Hall, (c) Francis Hall, (d) Josephine Hall. (1) Eleanor Martha Hall married Richard Bennett Darnall, of Portland Manor. They had (a) Philip Darnall, who died unmarried, (b) Josephine Hall Darnall, who married, first, Daniel Carroll Willson, and, second, Robert A. Jamison, (c) Henrietta L. Darnall, who married Charles Carroll Willson, and (d) Francis Hall Darnall, who married Nellie Carroll. (2) Henrietta Hall married Leon Garowski and had two children—Zofia and Leon. (3) Francis Hall married and moved to the South as a place of residence. (4) Josephine Hall.

[To Be Continued Next Sunday.]

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Mary Theresa Hall, daughter of Francis and Martha (Neale) Hall, married August 6, 1776, Dr. Thomas Bennett Willson, of Queen Anne's county. Mary Theresa Hall Willson died August 10, 1814, and lies buried at Overton, Queen Anne's county. Her father, Francis Hall, was born in 1732 and died February 13, 1798.

Dr. Thomas Bennett and Mary Theresa Hall Willson had five children, namely: Francis Hall Willson, Thomas Willson, Richard A. Willson, Martha Theresa Willson and Edward Willson. Of these, Francis Hall Willson married Susan Dafney, of Caroline county. Their children were: (a) Elizabeth Ann Willson, who died unmarried; (b) Mary Willson, who married, first, William Ringgold, and, second, Charles Hobbs; (c) Thomas Willson.

(2) Richard A. Willson married Anna Matilda Coale and their children were: (a) Richard Coale Willson, (b) Anna Matilda Willson, (c) Katharine M. Willson, (d) William Willson, (e) Edward Francis Willson, (f) Charles B. Willson, (g) Thos. B. Willson, (h) Mary Theresa Hall Willson.

(3) Martha Theresa Willson married Charles Cochrane Browne. Their children were: (a) Mary Elizabeth Browne, (b) Charles Cochrane Browne, who married May Elizabeth Willson; (c) Sarah E. Browne, who married Joseph Bennett Granger Mitchell; (d) Ellen E. M. Browne, who married Dr. Thomas Smythe Willson; (e) Robert Browne, (f) Elizabeth Browne, (g) Anna Browne, (h) Louisa Browne.

(4) Edward Willson married Henrietta Brooke, of Frederick county. They had two children: (a) Mary Willson, who married John Crump, of Vicksburg, and (b) Henrietta Brooke Willson, who married Col. James R. Creecy. The children of the latter were Charles Eaton Creecy, who married Sallie Fenwick, and Edward Willson Creecy, who married Margaret Ignatia Browne.

(5) Dr. Thomas Willson married Anna Maria Smythe as his first wife. Their children were: (a) Thomas Smythe Willson, who married Ellen E. M. Browne; (b) James Henry Willson, who married, first, Elizabeth Lawson Browne, and, second, Mary Clara McCubbin; (c) George Hayward Willson, who married Henrietta Eleanor Brooke; (d) Anna Maria Smythe Willson, who married Nathaniel Thornton Hynson; (e) Mary Elizabeth Willson, who married Charles Cochrane Browne; (f) William Edward Willson, who died unmarried; (g) John Charles Willson, who married Ann Elizabeth Brooke; (h) Richard Bennett Willson, who married Ann Martha Young; (i) Alexander Willson, (j) Robert Willson, both of whom died in infancy.

Dr. Thomas Willson married, second (after the death of Anna Maria Smythe), Mary A. (Hill) Brooke, daughter of Henry and Hester Brooke Hill and widow of James Brooke, of Kent county. They had four children: (a) Charles Joseph Willson, who died young; (b) Daniel Carroll Willson, who married Josephine Hall Darnall; (c) Martha Neale Willson, (d) Alexander Hopkins Willson, who married Mary Tilden Brown.

There is some rare old silver in possession of the Hall descendants, and upon a massive silver waiter is engraved the coat of arms of the family.

Among living descendants of the Hall family are the Halls, of Prince George's county: the Clarke Bowles, the MacGregors, Mrs. Somervill Bowie, Mrs. Somervill Dorsett, Mrs. L. M. Keith and Miss Murdock, of Georgetown, D. C.; Mr. C. Eaton Creecy and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson Creecy, of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. William E. Hamilton, of Houston, Texas; Mr. George Hayward Wilson, of San Francisco; Mrs. Babcock, San Rafael, Cal.; Mrs. Henrietta DeCourcy May and her daughter, Lady Lillian Bagot, of England; Mr. Geo. May, Mr. DeCourcy May, Mrs. John S. Gittings, Dr. Bennett Bernard Browne, Mrs. Charles T. Crane, Mrs. D. C. Woods, Miss Charlotte Ewell, Mr. Frederick De Sales Willson, of Cristobal, Panama; Mrs. Elizabeth Hill Camp, Mr. James Brooke Wilson, Doctor and Mrs. Thomas Bennett Wilson, Mrs. James C. Ringgold, Miss Martha Neale Willson, Mrs. Thomas Embert, Mr. Charles Carroll Willson, Mr. Thomas J. Ewell, of Baltimore; Misses Alice Maud and Eleanor Mildred Ewell, the Ewells, of Prince William and Green counties, Virginia; Dr. Evelyn Masteller, Mr. M. V. Mason, Miss Nellie Willson, Mr. Notley Oswald Willson, Mr. Richard Bennett Willson, Dr. William Henry DeCourcy, Mrs. T. Reverdy Sasscer and Mesdames John N. and J. Percy Willson, of Prince George's county; Capt. Chas. R. Belt, of Calvert county; Mrs. Victoria Belt Kent, Mr. S. Sprigg Belt, Mr. W. Seton Kent, all of Washington; Mr. Chas. Yates Kent, of New York; Mr. Benjamin Lee Belt, of Prince George's county; Mr. George Green Belt, of Alaska, besides many others whose names are omitted owing to lack of space.

The data for the above sketch was collected by an Eastern Shore descendant of the Hall family, assisted by the Misses Eleanor Mildred and Alice Maud Ewell, of Prince William county, Virginia. The arms and crest are copied from old silver plate still in possession of the family, but upon which the tinctures are not indicated.